IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please enter the replacement drawings included herein.

Please enter the following amendments to the specification.

Please replace the first paragraph on page 7 with the following paragraph:

"In SAN 10, the storage devices in the bottom tier are centralized and interconnected, which represents, in effect, a move back to the central storage model of the host or mainframe. A SAN is a high-speed network that allows the establishment of direct connections between storage devices and processors (servers) within the distance supported by Fibre Channel. The SAN can be viewed as an extension to the storage bus concept, which enables storage devices and servers to be interconnected using similar elements as in local area networks (LANs) and wide area networks (WANs): routers, ~~hubs~~ hubs, switches, directors, and gateways. A SAN can be shared between servers and/or dedicated to one server. It can be local, or can be extended over geographical distances."

Please replace the last paragraph on page 13 with the following paragraph:

"Figure 3, illustrates an exemplary zone plan 30 generated for a ~~SAN 32~~ SAN 31 according to an embodiment of the invention. In the generation of exemplary zone plan 30 a policy in which each storage device of type host is given its own zone is assumed. In zone plan 30, three hosts including Host1 32, Host2 34 and Host3 36 are shown. Host1 32, Host2 34 and Host3 36 are resident on ~~SAN 32~~ SAN 31. ~~SAN 32~~ SAN 31 also includes storage subsystem SS1 38. In addition, ~~SAN 32~~ SAN 31 includes

two switches, SW1 40 and SW2 42. SW1 40 includes switch ports P4 44, P5 46 and P6 48. SW2 includes switch ports P0 50, P1 52, P2 54 and P3 56. In ~~SAN 32~~ SAN 31, Host1 32, Host2 34 and Host3 36 are connected to switch ports P6 48, P5 46 and P3 56. Also, in ~~SAN 32~~ SAN 31, SS1 38 is connected dually to the switch ports P1 52 and P2 54. The switches SW1 40 and SW2 42 are cascaded to each other via the switch ports P0 50 and P4 44. Host1 32 and Host3 36 have logical units resident on the storage subsystem SS1 38 and so it can be said that Host1 32 and Host3 36 have a storage relationship with SS1 38. Finally, Host3 36 is directly connected to SS1 38, while Host1 32 needs to go through the intermediate ports P0 50 and P4 44 to reach SS1 38."

Please replace the second full paragraph on page 14 with the following:

"At block 62, relationships between devices in ~~SAN 32~~ SAN 31 are inferred (see block 18 in Figure 3)."

Please replace the last paragraph on page 14 with the following:

"At block 64, a policy in which each storage device of type host is given its own zone, is applied (see block 20 of Figure 3). Each device in ~~SAN 32~~ SAN 31 is checked to determine whether it is of type host system. Host1 32, Host2 34 and Host3 36 are all of type host system and satisfy the criteria of the policy. Accordingly, a zone is autonomically ~~created which~~ created 66 which includes Host1 32, SS1 38 (due to the storage relationship) and ports P6 48, P0 50, P4 44, P1 52, P2 54 (so as to capture all the ports in the storage relationship). No zone is created for Host2 34, because it does not have any storage relationship and we refrain from creating single-entry zones. With

regards to Host3 36, a new zone is autonomically ~~created which~~ created 66 which includes Host3 36, SS1 38 (due to the storage relationship) and the intermediate ports P1 52, P2 54 and P3 56 (due to the storage relationship). At block 68 method 58 ends."